

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MARCH 18, 2010 MEETING

In Attendance:

John Burnham	Al Floyd	Ken Francis	Albert Grant	John Kehoe
Barbara Sherman	Dick Sherman	Tom Talamini	Deb Talamini (after another meeting)	

Absent:

Michele Belisle	John Drake	Joanne Drapeau	Kristen Martin	Margaret Steinbugler
Peter Weilhouwer				

CALL TO ORDER: 7:05 PM

MINUTES of Feb. 18, 2010 MEETING: Approved.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT and WELCOME: To new member Ken Francis – Chair gave a brief history and makeup of the Commission which was established 10 years ago. He was explained that in our clearing and canoeing we maintained a goal of safety. Chair told of our accomplishments with opening the Scantic from the filter beds to O'Melia Road and celebrating with a canoe trip with participants having varying degrees of expertise. Walks have taken place from the Enfield line to Rte 140 at the Hensel property; going to Wickett's Bridge both from Scantic Road and from the town property off Plantation Road. Also referred to was Scantic River Watershed Association which has the same goal as the Commission, which is to secure the recreational use of the river. In East Windsor we are working toward the greenway status that has been achieved for the Enfield and Somers sections of the river by the SRWA.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. "Mansions at Canyon Ridge" (formerly Mansions on Scantic) – Anticipated walkway explained.
- b. East Windsor River Guide /SRWA Guides – Currently available at Broad Brook Bookstore.
- c. Canoe Trips on Scantic / Flood (River) Review – Reminder to report any change you observe or hear about. New tree is down near Stiles Bridge.
- d. Trail Markers – New yellow diamond shape ones were shown, with plan to leave original blue ones in place to make trail doubled marked. Yellow conforms with the state markers.
- e. Membership – Member, John Burnham, stated the Board of Selectmen would combine three groups (Commission among them) in an ordinance to change the makeup to make it easier to get a quorum. We want to keep our dedicated members but still have the ability of reaching a quorum easier.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Chair reviewed some goals for this year; among them:
 1. Obtain Greenway status,
 2. Open up trail from O'Melia Road to Old Ellington Road.
 3. Open Scantic from Rte. 140 to filter beds and Scantic from Enfield line to Rte 140.
 4. Construction of parking lots at O'Melia Road, Rte. 140, filter beds and Old Ellington Road.
 5. Maintenance of river to keep open once it is opened.
 6. Establish volunteer list of all who want to help (name, phone, email, boat or not).
 7. Bridge identification (set of 2 for each of the 4 bridges).
- b. March 14 walk was cancelled due to high water and weather conditions.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. April's activity was confirmed as a walk from O'Melia Road as far as can be done, and is scheduled for April 18 meeting at John Burnham's at 10AM. Discussion of other walks ensued.
- b. Chair told of Boy Scout who wants to do his Eagle project by erecting 2 bridges, having been advised not to make them more than 30 inches wide to they remain for walking only. was explained was done by SRWA since it had all the information from its own application.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:05 P.M.